

# Program Partners\*

## PROGRAM OUTREACH

**Department of Natural Resources  
Small Forest Landowner Office**  
PO Box 47012  
Olympia, WA 98504-7012  
Phone: 360-902-1404  
Fax: (360) 902-1428  
Email: sflo@wadnr.gov  
www.dnr.wa.gov/sflo

## PROJECT EVALUATION AND RANKING

**Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Habitat Management Program**  
PO Box 47012  
Olympia, WA 98501-1091  
Phone: 360-902-2534  
Fax: (360) 902-2946  
www.wdfw.wa.gov

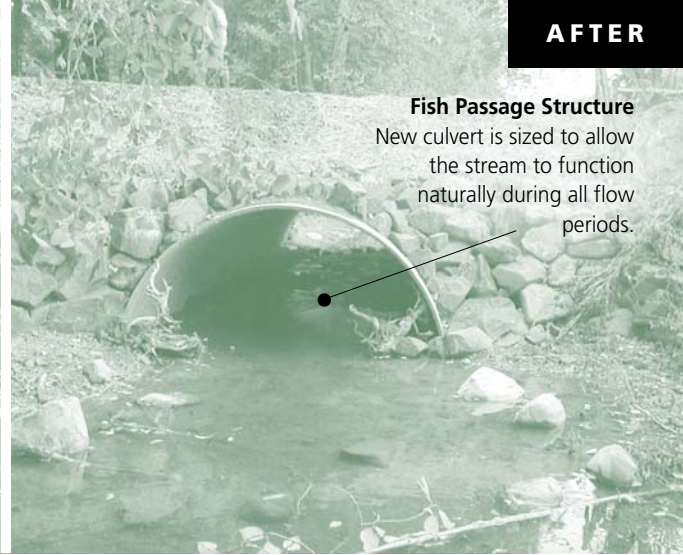
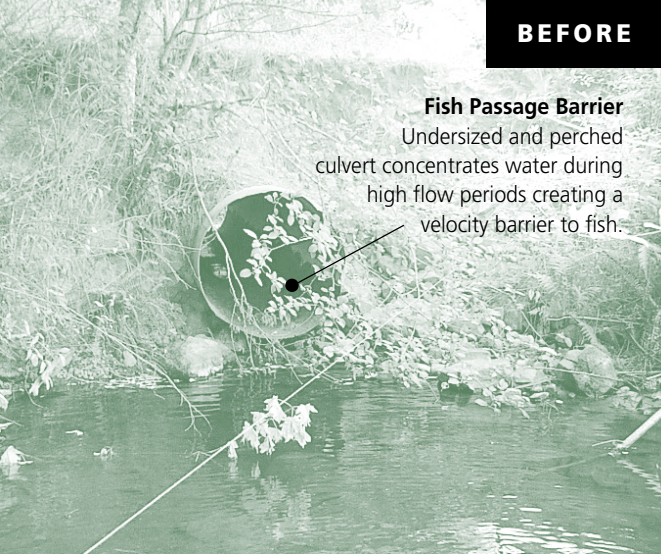
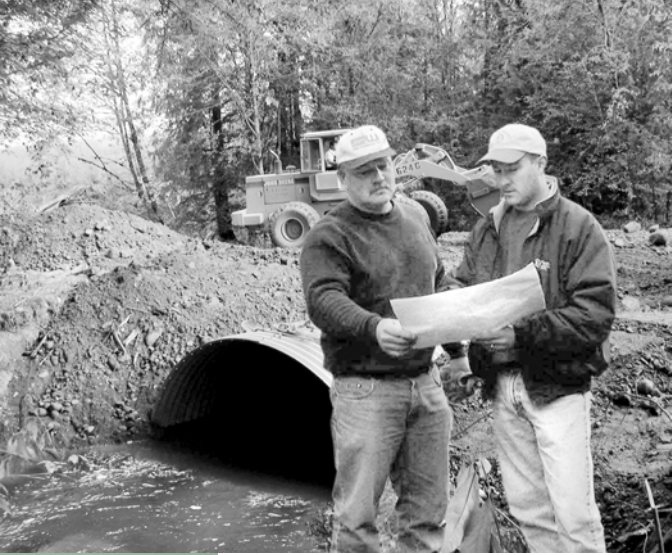
## PROGRAM FUNDING

**Interagency Committee for  
Outdoor Recreation**  
PO Box 40917  
Olympia, WA 98504-0917  
Phone: 360-902-3000  
Fax: (360) 902-3026  
www.iac.wa.gov

## LANDOWNER ORGANIZATION

**Washington Farm  
Forestry Association**  
PO Box 7663  
Olympia, WA 98507  
www.wafarmforestry.com

\* The three agencies are responsible for implementing the program. The Washington Farm Forestry Association joins the agencies on a steering committee.



**BEFORE**

**AFTER**

**Fish Passage Barrier**  
Undersized and perched culvert concentrates water during high flow periods creating a velocity barrier to fish.

**Fish Passage Structure**  
New culvert is sized to allow the stream to function naturally during all flow periods.

# Family Forest Fish Passage Program

a Cost-Share  
Program  
for Small Forest  
Landowners  
to Improve Fish  
Passage



Washington  
Department of  
**FISH and  
WILDLIFE**



Interagency Committee for  
**OUTDOOR RECREATION**  
**SALMON RECOVERY  
FUNDING BOARD**



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF  
**Natural Resources**

Small forest landowners own 4.2 million acres of Washington's forests — about half the private forestland in the state. These family forests are important to fish and include thousands of miles of fish-bearing streams.

A major key to restoring fish populations is removing barriers to fish passage. A single artificial barrier on a stream can keep fish from reaching many miles of habitat upstream. To help protect fish (a public resource), state Forest Practices rules require that these barriers be removed.

Because eliminating fish passage barriers can be costly, especially for the family forest landowner, the Legislature established the Family Forest Fish Passage Program, a cost-share program that helps private landowners protect public resources.

Not sure  
if your instream  
structure is  
a barrier to fish?  
Apply to the  
program to have it  
evaluated

## FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL HELP

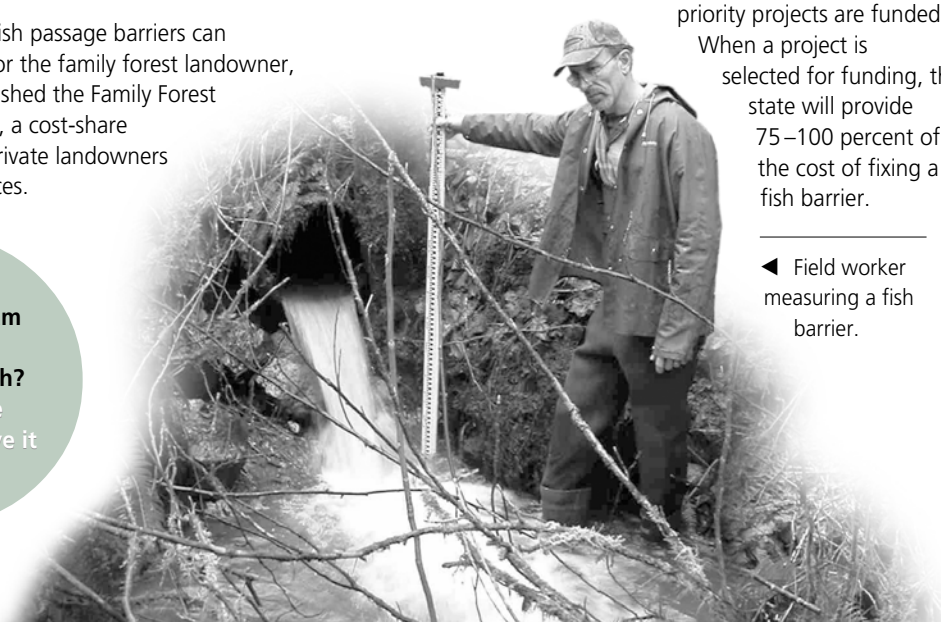
The Family Forest Fish Passage Program provides financial and technical assistance to family forest landowners who have fish barriers on their forestlands.

By signing up for the program, a landowner is relieved of any Forest Practices obligation to fix a fish barrier until the state determines the barrier is a high priority.

The program addresses barriers on a worst-first basis within each watershed. Each year the highest priority projects are funded.

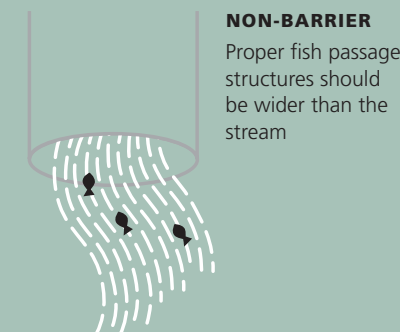
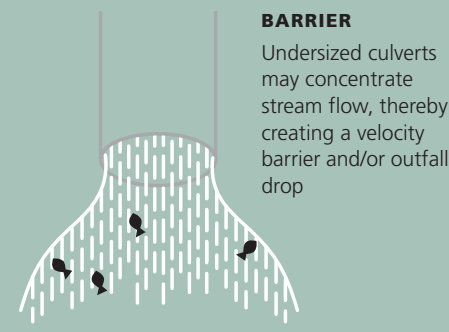
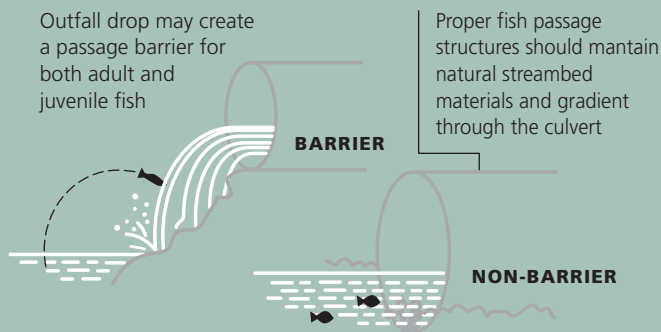
When a project is selected for funding, the state will provide 75–100 percent of the cost of fixing a fish barrier.

Field worker measuring a fish barrier.





# The Family Forest Fish Passage Program helps restore fish access to habitat.



## PROJECTS ARE PRIORITIZED BASED ON...

The Number and Location of Natural and Artificial Barriers Upstream and Downstream of the Project

Amount and Quality of Habitat Opened

The Number of Salmon and Trout Species Using the Stream

Upstream Fish Barrier

Family Forest Fish Barrier

Downstream Fish Barrier

## Who is eligible for the program?

You qualify for the program if:

**You are a private, small forest landowner.**

You harvest less than 2 million board feet of timber each year from lands you own in Washington.

*and*

**The fish barrier is on forestland.**

The land is capable of supporting a merchantable stand of timber and is not being used for anything incompatible with growing timber. Forestland does not include crop fields, orchards, vineyards, pastures, feedlots, Christmas tree farms, etc.

*and*

**The structure is on a fish-bearing stream.**

Any stream wider than 2 feet with a gradient less than 16 percent is considered potential fish habitat. Smaller or steeper streams may be fish-bearing; this will be determined by a site-specific evaluation. All artificial instream structures are required to allow passage of all fish species at all life stages—e.g., fingerlings to adult.

Qualifying barriers must be human-made, such as:

- Culverts
- Dams
- Weirs
- Puncheons
- Spillways

June 30<sup>th</sup>  
ANNUAL APPLICATION DEADLINE

## How does the program work?

- 1 Landowner applies**  
Request an *Application for Fish Passage Barrier Evaluation* from the Small Forest Landowner Office at DNR and submit it to the office.
- 2 Barrier is assessed**  
A field technician will contact you to make a site visit to assess the fish barrier.
- 3 Barrier is prioritized**  
The barrier will be prioritized within your watershed. After the annual application deadline, landowners will be notified of the priority of their project the following year.
- 4 Barrier is funded when it becomes a high priority**  
The barriers presenting the highest benefit to fish habitat are fixed first.
- 5 Project sponsor manages the project**  
The program recommends that landowners work with a project sponsor to manage all aspects of a project, including engineering, permits, contractors and accounts. A sponsor may be a local conservation district, a regional non-profit fish enhancement group or another organization familiar with such projects. Landowners may also sponsor their own project. Program staff will assist you in identifying sponsors for each project.